Consideration of the dedication of the Mosquito Creek Addition Nature Preserve in Harrison County

The proposed Nature Preserve is a 51.36 acre property in the central southern portion of Harrison County, approximately 2.0 miles east of the town of Laconia. This nature preserve is an addition to the original 121 acre preserve and is part of a large block of high quality forested habitats along the Mosquito Creek drainage, in Indiana's Mitchell Karst Plain Section of the Highland Rim Natural Region. The addition is part of a much larger conservation effort in partnership with The Nature Conservancy.

This Nature Preserve consists of topography that has heavily dissected slopes and ravine forest uplands along both sides of the West Branch of Mosquito Creek, a high quality aquatic system. The uplands are dry and dry-mesic high quality forests with limestone glades. The nature preserve also contains a spring cave, a dry cave, and a series of small waterfalls. These community types along with their expected component flora and fauna contain many species that are area-sensitive forest interior plants and animals dependent upon large, unfragmented forest ecosystems.

Noteworthy animal species found in this Nature Preserve include a large component of Lepidoptera that are State Rare and Endangered, Hooded Warbler, Sharp-shinned Hawk, and Red-shouldered Hawk.

This tract is owned and managed by the Department of Natural Resources Division of Nature Preserves.

The Division of Nature Preserves recommends dedication of this site as a State Nature Preserve.

Attached is Nature Preserves exhibit A.

Mosquito Creek Addition Nature Preserve County: Harrison Size: 51.36 acres DNP Managed Lands Mosquito Creek Road Mosquito Creek Road Mosquito Creek Road Reahard Woods THC Managed Area mag created by R Wilson IDNR Nature Preserves 06.17.2014 0 0.25 0.5 Miles